When this plant is considered to be a variety, as such plants commonly are in floras of the eastern United States, the epithet will not be the same. Hayek was the first (apparently, according to Patzak's synonymy) to propose a subspecific epithet, and *foetida* thus has priority in this rank, but there were earlier varietal names proposed for this plant. Linnaeus himself realized, after the publication of *B. nigra* in the Species Plantarum of 1753, that there were two entities involved, and for the second he proposed *Ballota alba* L. (Fl. Suec. ed. 2, 206. 1775), which is the plant with short, cuspidate calyx lobes that is called subsp. *foetida* by Patzak. As a variety its correct name will be *B. nigra* L. var. *alba* (L.) J. E. Smith (Brit. Fl. 2: 635. 1804).

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PASPALUM MINUS (GRAMINEAE) IN LOUISIANA AND MISSISSIPPI[1]

Recently I reported Mobile, Alabama as a new location for *Paspalum minus* Fourn. (Banks, 1964). In the United States the species had been known previously in eastern Texas, near Fannett, Beaumont, and Anahuac. According to Jones et al. (1961), *P. minus* was collected by Silveus in Aransas county in southeastern Texas. My Mobile collection extended the range of the species considerably but appeared to be isolated from the other locations.

Last summer, while I was collecting plants for my *Paspalum* studies, I found *P. minus* growing in Louisiana and Mississippi. The Mississippi collection was made two days after the Louisiana one during a field trip with Dr. Thomas Pullen, Department of Biology, University of Mississippi.

[1]Contribution No. 64 from the Stephen F. Austin State College Department of Biology.

Dr. Pullen arranged for lodging facilities at the University Forest Lands and provided local transportation to the collection site for which I am grateful. These new locations help to bridge the gap between the Texas and Alabama stations and indicate that the species is probably more widespread in the Gulf Coastal Plain than we have realized.

I contacted the following curators in Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi to determine if other locations for the species might be known: Joseph Ewan (NO), Frank Gould (TAES), G. W. Johnston (MISSA), Thomas Pullen (UNIV. OF MISS.), Claude McLeod (SHST), Lloyd Shinners (SMU), John L. Strother (TEX), Clair A. Brown (LSU) and John Thieret (LAF). I wish to thank the above persons for checking the locations of *P. minus* in their herbaria and for allowing me to include the information in this paper.

This correspondence did not reveal additional locations in Louisiana or Mississippi. Additional locations in Texas are, according to Strother[2], Smith Point, and according to McLeod[2], Weldon, Lovelady, Diboll, Huntsville, and Groveton to Trinity.

I do not know how *P. minus* was introduced into the United States. It is possible that hurricanes carried seeds from the West Indies. Another possibilty is that it may have been introduced in foreign imports of seeds of *Paspalum notatum* Flügge (Bahiagrass). *P. notatum* is becoming widespread in its distribution in the southeast, especially along highways and in pastures where it is often planted for erosion control and for forage. *P. minus* closely resembles *P. notatum*, the former being only slightly smaller in most characteristics, and probably accounts for its having been unnoticed. Closer observation may reveal additional specimens of *P. minus* in colonies of *P. notatum*.

Cytological examination of the Louisiana and Mississippi material using the aceto-carmine squash method revealed 10 chromosomes in the microspores and meiosis appeared normal. See Figure 1. Gould (1958) reported $n=20$ in the Huntsville material which was collected by McLeod[2]. My

[2]Personal communication.

Fig. 1. Meiotic chromosomes of *Paspalum minus* (Banks 3500). $n = 10$.

report therefore represents a new chromosome count for *P. minus* and indicates that some races are diploid.

My collection data for *P. minus* in Louisiana and Mississippi and the disposition of specimens are as follows:

LOUISIANA. ST. TAMMY PARISH: Edge of Pine woods along a wet ditch about 1.6 miles east of Abita Springs along Louisiana State Highway 36. Scattered clumps. *D. J. Banks 3395*. July 16, 1964. (ASTC, GH, LSU, MO, NO, NY, SMU, US).

MISSISSIPPI. JACKSON COUNTY: In low pinelands in a wet ditch about 8 miles south of Vancleave. Plants erect. *D. J. Banks 3500*. July 18, 1964. (ASTC, GH, MISSA, MO, NY, SMU, University of Mississippi, University of Southern Mississippi, US).

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